

## HOWARD COUNTY BRAC TASK FORCE

**BRAC BIT: # 78**

**DATE:** 25 May 2010

**SUBJECT(S):** BBI Phase I Review, Cyber Command and Job Fairs

**POINT OF CONTACT:** Kent Menser (410-313-6521) [kmenser@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:kmenser@howardcountymd.gov)

### 1. Upcoming Events/Actions:

a. BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) End of Phase I Review (Regional Growth Management Committee)

i. Date: **23 June, 2010, 8 AM to 10 AM**

ii. Event: Congressman Elijah Cummings and Howard County Executive Ken Ulman will receive the end of Phase I Report.

iii. Location: Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Pl # 2 Columbia, MD 21045-3728

iv. Agenda:

- Networking: 0730 to 0800
- Introduction of guests and Test Companies: 0800 to 0810
- Review of Phase I Findings and Recommendations: 0810 to 0900
- Break: 0900 to 0910
- Phase II Presentation: 0910 to 0940
- Partner Company “elevator speeches:” 0940 to 1000
- Networking: 1000 to 1030

### 2. Discussion:

a. Cyber Command:

Reportedly, on 21 May 2010, the Director of the National Security Agency was designated the Cyber Command Commander and promoted to Four Star General. On the subject of old news, according to press reports, Fort Meade has been confirmed as the location of Cyber Command Headquarters.

b. BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) and Networking:

- i. Thanks to the leadership of Raj Kudchadkar, Jeryl Baker, Nancy Briguglio and our new committee members, the BBI Networking Committee is off to a strong start. We are looking for innovative and effective methods of connecting BBI companies with Defense Agencies, Defense Contractors and each other. If you have “best practices” in this area that you would like to share with us, please send us a message. [JBBaker@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:JBBaker@howardcountymd.gov). [rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov).
- ii. Did you know that 90% of the businesses in our county have less than 50 employees and 70% have less than 10 employees? As you do know, many companies of this size are resource (time, money and people) challenged. This situation is further exacerbated by the fact that it is a challenge for small businesses to physically find/contact each other in order to share experiences, best practices or attack common issues. In the BBI, we recognize this situation and that is why the Networking Committee becomes even more important. In addition to helping make connections between businesses, we want to assist in building sustainable relationships between companies that want to buy from one another and/or partner with each other. Starting in Phase II, look for the establishment of function based, sustainable networking. Today, we have over 600 BBI partners that can make this happen.

c. BBI Surveys: Starting in June 2010, the BBI will send out a series of brief surveys (5 questions) to our 600 partners. The objectives are to identify best practices, best institutional support, best opportunities and biggest challenges at all levels.

### 3. Cybertorial:

- a. There have been a number of successful “job fairs” over the past year and more to come. Job fairs provide an opportunity to match organizational requirements with individual capabilities. When it happens, it is great – a win-win situation. That said, we have had job seekers tell us about long lines and wait times. And, in some cases misunderstandings on what jobs are actually available.
- b. There is no easy solution to this situation, but we might recommend blocks of time based upon job requirements/qualifications/alphabetical and more detailed preliminary information. Have a great idea on this subject, let us know!